

## Media Day: Bogus Reality?

by Jimmie Anderson

The fifth consecutive Eighth-Grade Media Day, held at MBA, was met with various reactions. Every year the eighth grade collaborates with Harpeth Hall's eighth grade to discuss the influence of media. This year's speaker, Rebecca Randall, is from CommonSense Media. Ms. Randall exposed not only the subtle messages that are apparently embedded in reality TV shows but also how people are stereotyped and our reactions to the shows. One of her major points is that reality TV is carefully edited to be provocative and controversial.

We started out in the Paschall Theater, where we watched clips from popular reality

TV shows such as "Laguna Beach" and "The Real World." Ms. Randall then asked us what we thought about the shows and what stereotypes we saw in the clips. After two rather long hours of watching and discussing the clips, we broke out

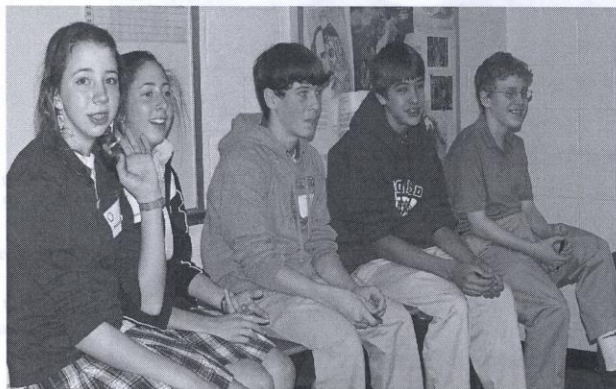


*Coed lunch: The best part of Media Day!*

into smaller groups and were handed a sheet titled "Our Reality Show." Ms. Randall challenged each group to create its own reality show. This assignment, for our group at least, consisted mainly of procrastination, but it was more entertaining than sitting in Paschall. We finally came up with our reality situation, practiced several times, and after lunch presented it to another group.

Some of the made-up reality shows included "Made: I'm Blind and Want To Be a Basketball Star," "Fooled," and "Skip." After we viewed the other group's reality show, we completed a sheet about their skit, which included questions

*Cont. on page 2*



*Eleanor, Lexi, Ryan, Russell, and Nathan think their reality skit was the best.*

# Media Day



*Script-writing is hard work!*



*Why didn't Mr. McMurray eat hamburgers like the rest of us?*

like "What product was advertised?" and "Would you watch this show if it was on TV?" Media Day concluded with further discussion about our clearer perception of how TV influences us.

Here are several student reactions to the event:  
**What I say:** Overall, Media Day was somewhat fun. It was a lot better than a school day and was, to some extent, interesting.

**Will Norton:** "Media Day is good because you can reflect on media's influence."

**Phillip Danieleley:** "Wow!"

**Stan Rozar:** "I hate *Top of the Hill*. (Thanks, Stan, for the support; why don't YOU write an article?)

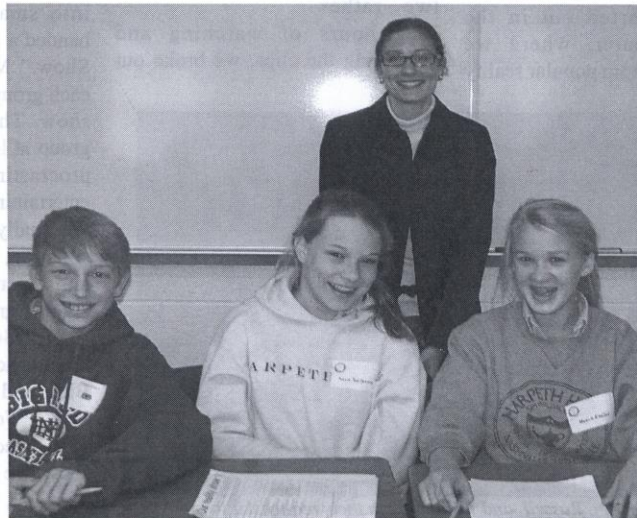
The media topics were interesting."

**Eddie Seay:** "Media Day was okay. A school day would not have been that much better."

**Mitchell Shope:** "Better than a school day; all right."

**Alex Hunt:** No comment.

**Anonymous:** "I was a little nervous around the ladies so I sat in a corner and played with the Post-it notes in my pocket."



*Rebecca Randall from CommonSense Media visits with a break-out group.*



# Holiday Memories

## Remember When...

**Cedric Smith:** My favorite holiday was when I was about six, and I snuck down the stairs trying to look for Santa Claus. When I went down the stairs, I tripped and was caught trying to see him. My mom tricked me the next morning with ashes as my first Christmas present and said that was all I

snowmobiles with my cousins in Minnesota. The track was huge and snowy. The race itself was extremely intense and the highlight of my Christmas vacation.

**Paul Van Pernis:** One Christmas several years ago, my family and I went to Colombia, South America, to celebrate Christmas with some family. It was more than 100 degrees F. every day. Boy, was it hot!

**Miss Sarah Ellery:** Being from Texas, I never saw

Christmas snow except for one year when we traveled to see my grandmother in Arkansas. I built a giant snowman, and then I managed to peg my dad in the face with a perfectly thrown snowball—it was beautiful!

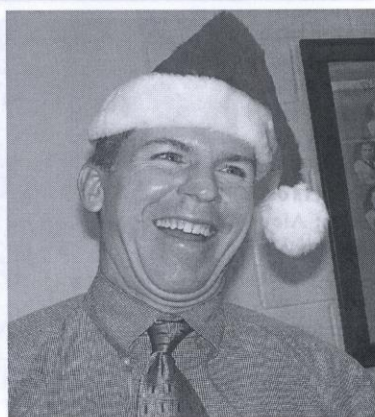
**Rob McArthur:** Max Coyle and I caught each other on fire with aerosol cans during our

cornered him and attacked him.

**Jarvis Werkhaven:** I got mad at Grandma for getting me clothes for Christmas, so I made her take me to the mall and get me something else.

**Mr. David Brown:** When I was about seven years old, I contracted chickenpox a few days before Christmas. I had a pretty bad case of them, and I have the scars to prove it. All wasn't a tragedy, as Santa brought me a cowboy outfit,

*Cont. on page 4*



*Mr. David Brown: Cowboy with chickenpox*



*Miss Sarah Ellery: Pegged her dad*

would get. Later, she thought I learned my lesson and gave me the rest of my presents.

**Ryan Hill:** I remember when we made hot chocolate, and I shot it out of my nose. It burned.

**Will Norton:** I got a Gamecube for Christmas and played Luigi's Mansion and Super Smash Bros. Melee all day.

**Jack Warne:** Last year, I raced

fourth grade Christmas break.

**Lucas Rappuhn:** I remember when I got my first dog about five years ago. When we brought him home, my cat



*Rob McArthur and Max Coyle: Innocent-looking arsonists*



# Holiday Memories

complete with hat, chaps, vest, and six-shooter pistols!

**Harrison**

**Luna:** Alex and I got a train set when we were four or five. When the train came through the

tunnel, it hit Alex in the forehead.

**Chris Goodrich:** My dad told me about a little girl who got a robot for Christmas. When she walked in on Christmas morning and saw her gift, she was so scared that she threw up!

**Devin McClain:** One Christmas, my grandmother put coal in my stocking, and I started crying. She really tricked me because she also got me a Play Station.

**Mitchell Shope:** One holiday tradition of my family is that every Christmas Eve, we pile up on the couch and watch *A Christmas Carol* together before going to bed.

**Alex Luna:** I enjoyed beating up the stuffed snowman outside in the snow.

**Shelby DeWeese:** When I was six, my dad gave me a book for Christmas. I thought I had been so good that year! Then my mom told me that Santa DIDN'T EXIST! I never thought of Christmas the same way after that year.

**Mrs. Carol Steele:** My favorite



*Jarvis Werkhaven: Got mad at Grandma*

and bought one so that it was in the house when we got there. The expression of awe and wonderment was priceless!

**Wally Macey:** My uncle brought us one of his three dogs for Christmas. On Christmas morning, we let our new dog outside, and he ran away, but we eventually found him.

**Dr. Rick Seay:** My father always filmed Christmas morning with an eight-millimeter-film camera and the brightest lights imaginable. Waking up and having these lights hit me almost immediately would put me in a bad mood until I could open that first present.

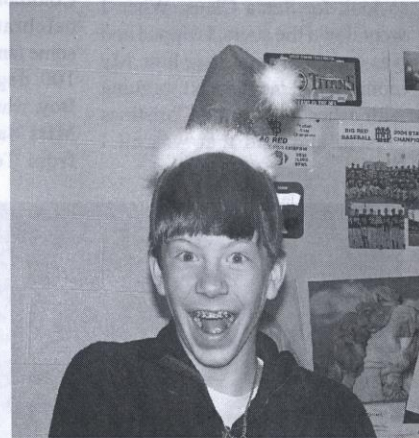
**Connor Caldwell:** My friend's little brother was about three years old and was curious about the shiny

Christmas memory was the first year we had a live tree. We were helping my sister decorate her tree, and my son Chris was about five years old. He said

that he wished we could have a real tree. My husband Ed left

boxes under the tree. While his mom was making breakfast, he crawled under the tree and opened every present and hid them. When his mom found out, she could only find about half of the presents and had to go out shopping again.

**Max Coyle:** Rob McArthur and I



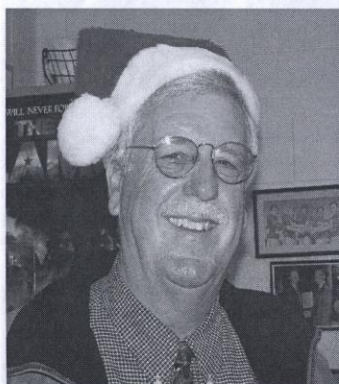
*Mitchell Shope: Enjoys family time*



*Dr. Rick Seay: Turn out the lights!*



# Holiday Memories



*Mr. Pat Woolsey: Witnessed basketball history*

were playing with matches and flammable liquids during Christmas break one year. We caught each other on fire. We put out the flames by rolling in the snow. We got in big trouble.

**Mrs. Anne Christeson:** I was very small. My brothers and sisters and I had been barred from the living room all that Christmas Eve, and behind the closed door, we could hear intriguing noises. That night, after we had put on our pajamas, Mama led us through the door into the living room—and there stood the most beautiful Christmas tree ever! Reaching right to the ceiling, it was covered with lights, ornaments, icicles, and snow, all glowing softly in the warm light of the fire. Over the fireplace was the crèche—a miniature stable with Mary, Joseph, the shepherds and sheep, an angel hovering above, but the tiny statue of baby Jesus was missing. Daddy explained that he would be born that night. We hung

up our stockings along the mantelpiece, each one in order by our age. Then Daddy got out the Bible and read the story of Mary and Joseph coming to Bethlehem: “In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the whole world....” And off to bed we went, awaiting the glorious morning, dreaming of Santa Claus and baby Jesus.

**Cooper Thomas:** My cat knocked a good ornament off the tree and batted it around until it broke.

**Jackson Zeitlin:** I was born during the holiday season, and there was a blizzard. Luckily, my parents and their new-born son made it safely home before being snowed in at our house.

**Mrs. Virginia Bakken:** Every year my mother is in charge of preparing for and assisting in the Christmas Eve communion services. I can remember as a child always rushing my mom to clean up so that we could join the rest of my rather large family of 20 for dinner and a very competitive game of Trivial Pursuit or Pictionary. Now that I have to go to my in-laws every other year, I cherish the time I can spend with my mom and sister in the quiet of the empty sanctuary like we have for the past 25 years.

**Mr. Pat Woolsey:** I used to spend the Christmas holidays with my mother’s family in Texas. I would always try to go to a college basketball game while I was there. One year I went to Dallas to see SMU play Army. Army’s coach was a very young man named Bobby Knight. The star guard on Army’s

team was a skinny kid named Mike Krzyzewski, now the coach at Duke. I think back to that night and realize that I saw two of the greatest college basketball coaches of all time right there competing together. Army won the game, and I’ll never forget it.

**Jonathan Coffey:** When I was six, I wanted a GI Joe tank for Christmas. I didn’t receive it, so I had a terrible fit and pushed over the Christmas tree.

**Will Gormley:** One time over Christmas, I was at my cousin’s house in Atlanta. We were running around the house, and I ran into my little cousin. Half of my tooth was chipped off, and my cousin had to go to the ER. He got nine stitches in his forehead.

**Phillip Daniele:** My favorite Christmas was when it snowed, and we went sledding and drank a lot of eggnog.



*Mrs. Virginia Bakken: Quiet time with Mom*



# HVAC Champs



How Sweet It Is!

## Wrestling: Hard Work Rewarded

by Jack Keller

The Wrestling team has done a tremendous job this year going through the regular season undefeated. The team came in second in both the Harpeth Tournament and MBA Duals, which was a nail biter because we only lost to Nashville Christian Wrestling by one individual point. The team was able to come

through and win the HVAC by a lot!

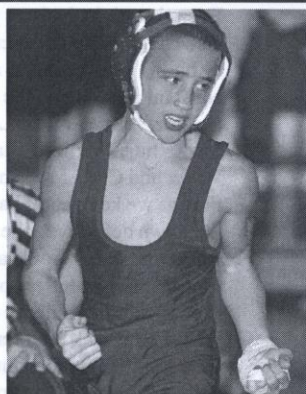
The HVAC was a tough tournament, but we were able pull it out with most of our wrestlers placing. Casey Ortelle, John Mark Bellet, and Mark Simpson all came in 1<sup>st</sup> place. Since the tournament was at MBA, every back-up wrestler had to attend to help with the clock and keep score. It was a long day (from 6:50 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.), and every one was exhausted.

The team constantly relied on the efforts of the Casey Ortale, Daniel Bellet, John Mark Bellet, Thomas Forcum, Matthew Johnson, Isaac Kennedy, Mark Simpson, Harrison Luna, Alex Hunt, Will Gormely, John Seht, Charlie Steere, Tyler Cauble, Doug McWilliams, and

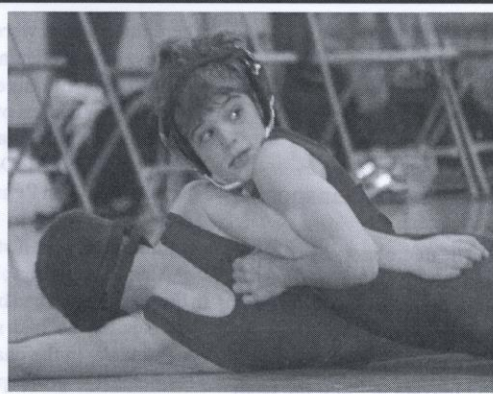
Alex Gant to pull out victories. The starters were pushed to succeed on the mat by the back-up wrestlers who went through all drills and workouts with them.

During the second week of the season, the team had to go through "Red Flag Day," as Coach Shone calls it. The workout consisted of two hours of pure exercises and strenuous drills. It was the hardest workout I have ever done. After this workout, Coach Shone and Coach McMurray gave us donuts and milk to reward us for our persistent effort and completion of "Red Flag Day." Needless to say, winning the HVAC made this hard work totally worthwhile!

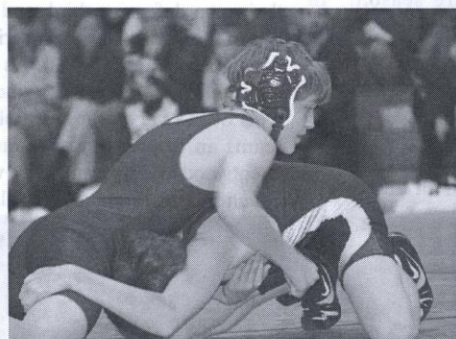
# Sports



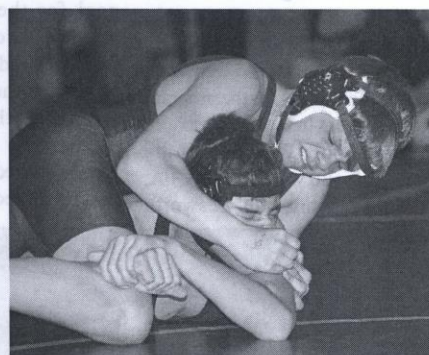
*John Mark Bellet*



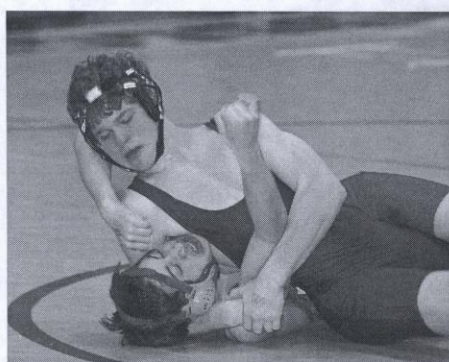
*Casey Ortale*



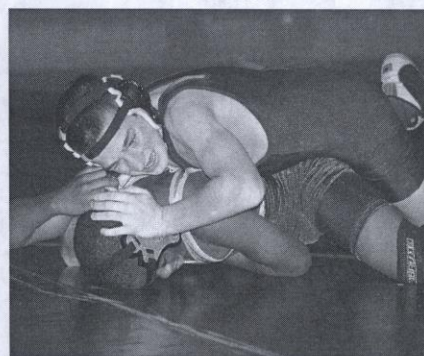
*Eric Owings*



*Alex Hunt*



*John Sehart*



*Mark Simpson*



# HVAC Champs

## What a Season!

by Coach Dick Klausner

The microbe soccer A team came into the season having lost the core players of last year's HVAC champions. We were blessed, though, in having a strong group of returning players to build the team around as we began our march towards another HVAC title. In addition, Coach Giles Cheevers joined Coach Klausner so we would have more continuity for the program as the boys went from middle school to high school. We opened the season with solid wins against CPA, Harding Academy, and Ensworth

where the coaches were able to get a glimpse of the potential of the team as well as what needed to be worked on for the rest of the season. It was obvious immediately that the back four of Clay McDonald, Evan Newport, Paul Van Pernis, and Clay Adams were going to be tough to get through. It was just as obvious that Alex Blanton was even stronger in the goal than he had been the year before when he had saved three penalty kicks in the championship. This defensive group proved to be so strong that they only allowed one goal for the entire season! In midfield, the central tandem of Ryan Shepherd and Ford Emerson simply controlled the field as they played strong both defensively and offensively. On the outside, Joe Riegler started on the right side and played incredibly well all season.

Even though he had not played the game in years, his athleticism proved to be his greatest asset as he kept constant pressure on the attack. On the left flank, Alex Luna, Rob McArthur, William Flautt, John Wyse, and Chris Meluch all shared time as we kept teams backed up in their own defensive zone. As for the forwards, Ben Crook and Hayes McCord put relentless pressure on the opposition's defense each game with their speed, their tenacity, and their willingness to fight for every ball. Because of their pressure, we were able to keep teams locked in their own defensive third, and the rest of the boys could apply serious forward pressure as well. As the team jelled, they had convincing wins over a very strong Grassland team, an impressively talented Brentwood Middle team, and a well coached and talented Woodland

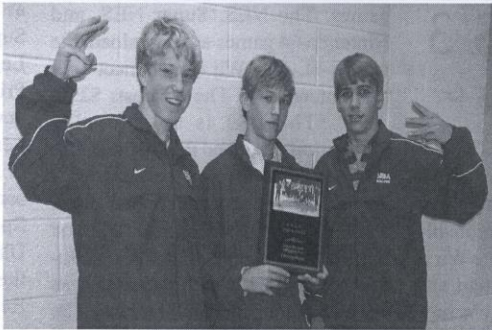


2006 HVAC Champions



# Sports

team. Heading into the playoffs, the team was 7-0 and had played well, but they knew that all of these teams had the potential to beat them if they did not come out and play with the kind of heart that had become their trademark. In the semifinals, Grassland came out ready for revenge. The game was brutal, and it was scoreless until late in the first half when Ford Emerson buried a shot from 22 yards out. The team then focused on shutting Grassland out the rest of the way. Alex Blanton had to make two outstanding saves to keep the team on track for the finals, and the Big Red won 1-0. For the championship match, we had to face Woodland in a rematch. Woodland came out strong and had the Big Red backed up for the first five minutes of the game. Suddenly, Ben Crook stole a ball at midfield and played a beautiful through ball to a sprinting Hayes McCord who buried the ball in the back of the net past a diving Woodland keeper. From that moment on, it was obvious the boys sensed they were ready to take control of the game. Ryan Shepherd and Ford Emerson played tremendously in the midfield, controlling the

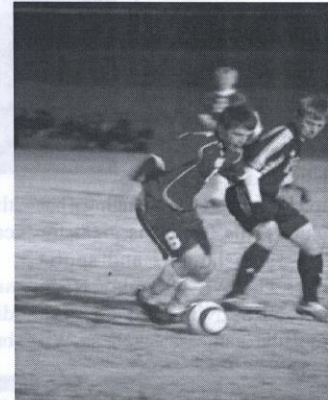


*Ryan, Clay, and Hayes celebrate MBA's three consecutive HVAC soccer championships.*

middle third. Then, Joe Riegler simply came alive. As the backs and midfield slotted balls through to him, Joe used his speed to overpower the Woodland backs and he finished the game with a hat trick, scoring three beautiful goals. The entire defense, as they had all season long, destroyed all the attacks against them, and the Big Red won the championship 4-0. Special mention needs to be made of the exceptional play of Ford Emerson, Evan Newport, Clay Adams, and Hayes McCord

in this final match because they put relentless pressure on whoever had the ball for the opposition. The boys ended the season 9-0, scoring 27 goals and only surrendering one. This championship was the third HVAC championship in a row for the soccer team, who over a three-year span has a record of 31-1-1. Earning All HVAC honors for this year's team were Hayes

McCord, Ryan Shepherd, Ford Emerson, Clay Adams, and Alex Blanton. Coach Klausner said of the season: "This team was simply a pleasure to work with because they simply refused to lose, and they understood the kind of heart and spirit it takes to win a championship. As well, we were all fortunate to



*Joe Riegler had a hat trick in the championship game against Woodland.*

be able to have Coach Cheevers come down from the varsity and guide the team. He has an incredible ability to organize a team and give it a vision of what must be done to win."

*B-Team soccer completed the season with a 8-0 record. Congratulations!*



*Ben Crook's championship form*



# Entertainment

## Wii vs. PS 3

by Nathan Tinnell

If you are not sure about whether to buy the Playstation 3 or the Wii, then you should probably read this article. First off, the Wii is Nintendo's new gaming system, and the Playstation 3 is Sony's new system. I'm going to talk about the Wii first. The Wii has a revolutionary feature on it: motion sensors. This means that if you are playing a baseball or golf game, you can swing the controller like a bat or club instead of pressing a button to simulate the swinging a bat or club. This feature is great for first-person-shooters and sports games. The Wii will play NES, Super NES, Nintendo 64, and Gamecube games as well as Wii

games. The NES, Super NES, and Nintendo 64 games are downloadable via Wi-Fi. The Wii can connect with the Nintendo DS. The Wii costs \$250.

The PS3 is able to play Playstation, PS2, and PS3 games. The PS3 also has motion censors, too; however, they are not as sophisticated, and they can only recognize right and left tilt movements. The PS3 is Blu-Ray compatible, which means that its games have super sharp graphics. The

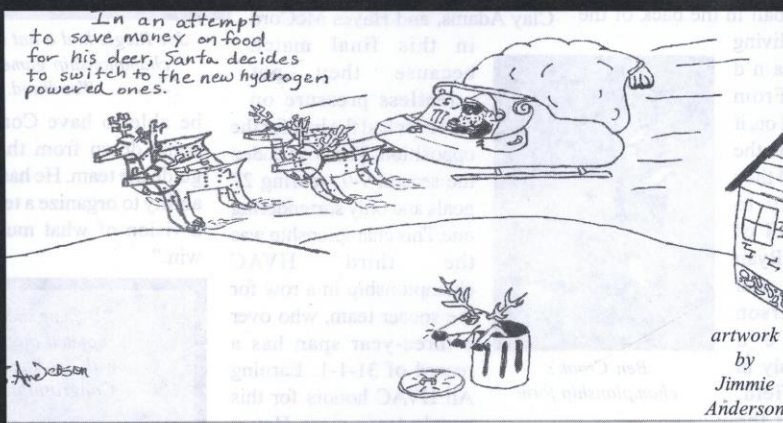


PS3's graphics are much sharper than the Wii's, because it seems like the Wii is going for a cartoonish effect, while the PS3 is going for a real-life effect. The PS3 costs \$500 or \$600, depending on which system you buy. Neither the PS3 or the Wii requires a memory card, and both have Wi-Fi.

While both of these systems seem cool, there is one major difference: The Games. The Wii brings back many familiar titles, such

as Super Smash Bros. Brawl, Super Mario Galaxies, and The Legend of Zelda, the Twilight Princess. The Wii also has some new titles, like Red Steel (first-person-shooter) and project H.A.M.M.E.R. The PS3 has some familiar titles, like Need for Speed, NBA 07, and Marvel Ultimate Alliance, but the title that they are advertising the most is Resistance: Fall of Man, which sounds weird, and it is kind of creepy if you look at the box cover art.

In short, both systems appear great, and if you want a cheaper system with advanced motion sensors and great action and fighter games, then buy the Wii, but if you want a system with sharp graphics, Blu-Ray, and some great sports and war games, then buy the PS3. Both of these systems are going to be in short supply this holiday season. Hope I helped.





# Features

## Ball Caps, the Ultimate Fashion Accessory

by Martin Carter and Jimmy Thomas

Recently at MBA, many students have been asking about "ball caps" at class meetings. What is the appropriate time to wear these savored head ornaments? Can we blame these students? Well, no! I love ball caps, you love ball caps, we all love ball caps.

If you are a newcomer to this ever-popular trend, there are some things you need to know: First of all, no ball caps in the building! Martin, a ball cap expert, comments that the precise percentage of bend in the bill is necessary. Something else you should remember is to accessorize your different ball caps.

For those of you who plan on getting a ball cap for that special someone this holiday season, let's take a look at some popular sellers this year. A very popular choice is the St. Louis Cardinals World Series Champions ball caps, selling millions across the U.S. Another ball cap that seems to be flying out of the stores is the Boston Red Sox ball cap. Other popular ball caps include Chicago Cubs, Atlanta Braves, and just the classic MLB logo.

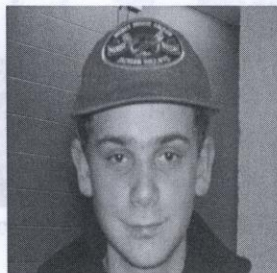
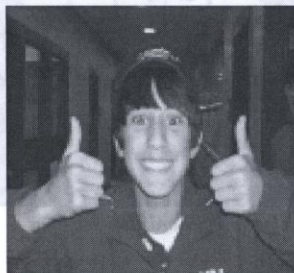
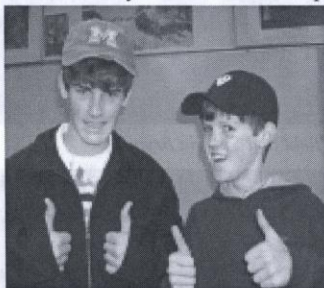
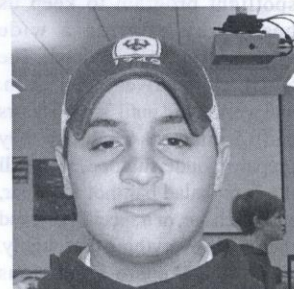
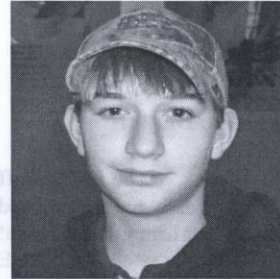
Martin and I asked some of our classmates for their opinions on ball caps:

**Christian Alford:** "I love ball caps, they make me happy!"

**Connor Pagnani:** "Ahh gee wiz, ball caps are awesome!"

**Joe Riegler:** "The best feeling in the world is a brand new ball cap fitting snug around my head. I just love it."

The moral of the story: Buy a ball cap, support your team, and have a better life.



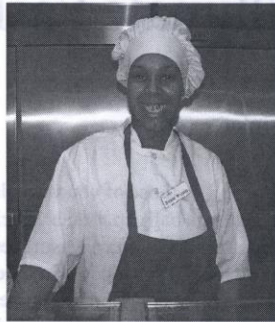


# Features

## Thanks, SAGE

by Gage Baxter

The SAGE staff works hard daily and is committed to making us happy during lunch! SAGE has created the SAGE spotlight program to keep us healthy by offering a wide assortment of nutritious foods. The SAGE crew arrives at 6:15 a.m. and works hard until 3:30 (6 hours and 15 minutes). Each day they prepare wonderful food, set up all the bars (salad bar, hot food bar, sandwich bar, or a special bar), and then clean everything thoroughly. They also prepare a delicious breakfast with great potatoes, sausages, biscuits, bacon, French toast, all types of cereal, and sometimes even chocolate doughnuts. After the delicious breakfast, they clean up again and start preparing for lunch. We MBA students come in daily for the magnificent lunch and can sometimes be a little hungry. I hope everyone occasionally says "Thanks" to the SAGE



*Shemika Woodard*

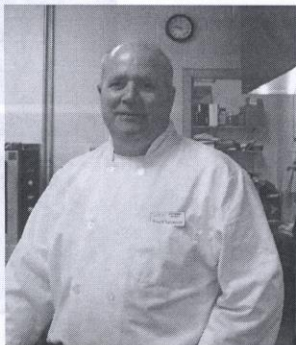


*Susan Davenport*

crew for their hard work. At the end of the day, they clean up the huge mess we make and set up for the next day. This process is non-stop. Thank you, SAGE!



*Edith Warfield and Sherrie Bryant*



*Chef Steve Walsnovich*



*Michael Bailey, Alberta Woodard, Juan Holbert*



# Features

## Congratulations to Mr. Spiegl and Mrs. Qian

For the fourth straight year, Chris Spiegl has led his Envirothon teams to first-place finishes in the district competition. MBA went on to compete in the state competition and placed 2nd and 3rd. Mr. Spiegl brought two teams each year with the second teams placing 2nd and 3rd in the Central Basin RC&D competition area, which consists of six counties (Davidson, Rutherford, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson, and Wilson). The event focuses on the understanding and conservation of our natural resources. Topics covered are Aquatics, Forestry, Soils, Wildlife, and this year's current issue, Water Stewardship in a Changing Climate.



Maggie Qian has been named to the Tennessee Math Teachers Association's Honor Roll. This award is based on student performance in state-wide competition.

## Outstanding Educators



Tom Markham: Algebra I, 3rd Place,  
Interscholastic Math League

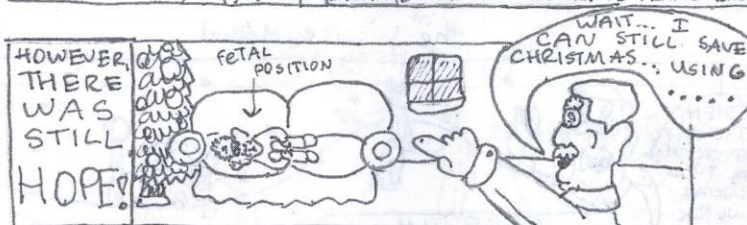
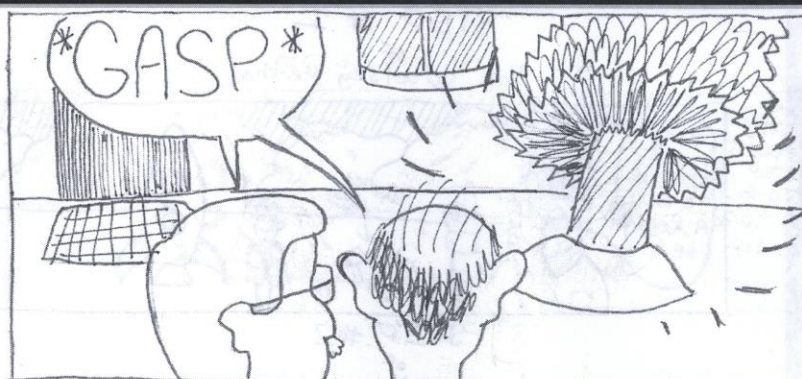


# Cartoons...



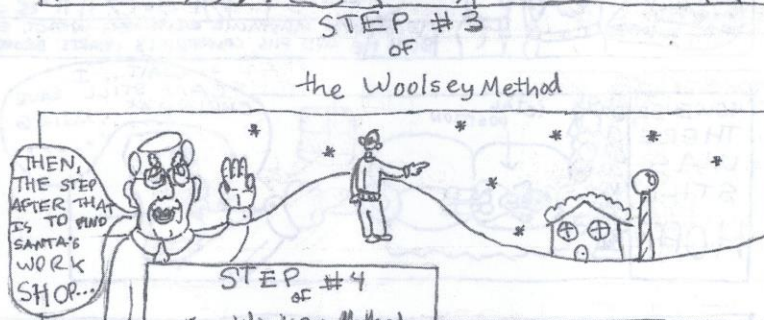
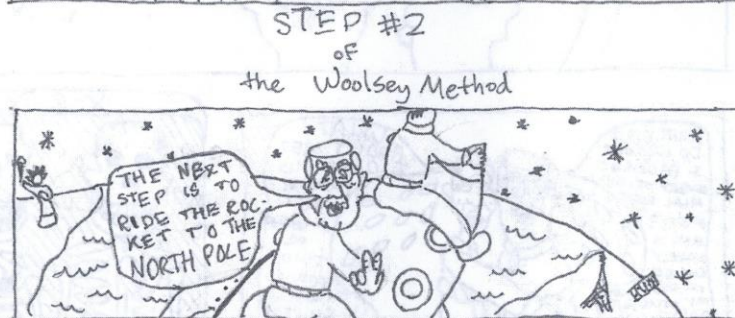


by Chris





# Cartoons...



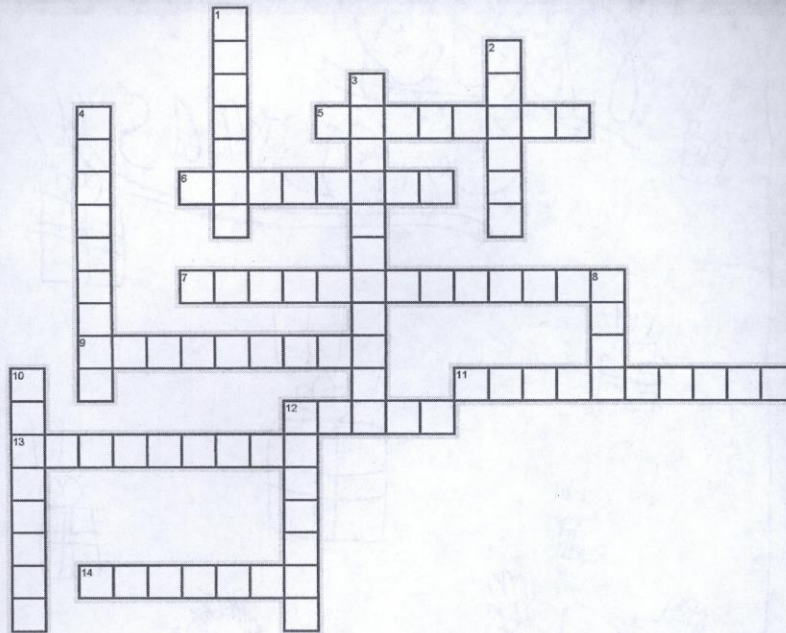


by Chris





# Joe's Crossword



## Across

5. Holiday: Uses \*9 candles\*
6. He was good, the king, and looked out on the Feast of Stephen.
7. They see me mowin' my front lawn...
9. The name of the '&' sign
11. Christmas Tree (from European language, plus it's in a song)
12. Gold, frankincense, \_\_\_\_\_.
13. 'Viscum album' parasitic plant, often hung
14. Celebrates African-American history

## Down

1. Spins around and used with \*nine candles\*
2. Not-so-popular Japanese brain teaser (two k's)
3. VERY hard and unrelated:  
HEPATICOCOCHOLANGIOCHOLECYSTENTEROSTOMIES  
is the creation of a connection between a hepatic duct and \_\_\_\_\_.

4. On the same day of Kwanzaa
8. The \_\_\_\_ log (English custom)
10. O come, O come \_\_\_\_\_.
12. 9 candles



*First person to see Joe with a correct puzzle wins the prize!*

# Features

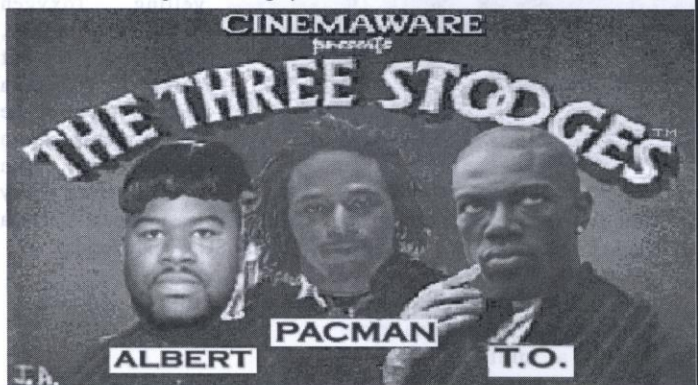
## The Three Stooges

by Will McCaskill

We all know that the Three Stooges on TV are hilarious and are a classic. However, in the NFL, there are three players that stick out as "stooges," having either a one-time or multiple incidents that qualify them as boneheads. These people are Albert Haynesworth, Pacman Jones, and of course... T.O. Terrell Owens. We all remember just a couple of weeks ago that Albert "Fat Al" Haynesworth got mad for some odd reason and stomped on a player's head when he was on the ground with no helmet. Now in my opinion, I am thinking you have to be *completely* crazy to pull a stunt like that, an act like that can lead to serious long-term injuries. Luckily for Andre Gurode, he only had stitches. Albert is my Moe. Next, there is Pacman Jones. Yes, he is a

good player, but over the past two years, he always has some run-in with the law. He is often either drunk and fighting, just fighting, being accused of spitting on a woman, or all sorts of things. DUH, Pacman!!!! If he wants the fans to like him, he should play the game and stay out of trouble. That is why Pacman is my Curly. Finally, the infamous, unbelievable, watch out here he comes, it's T.OOOOOO! If you haven't heard of Terrell Owens, then you must be living under a rock because he has the loudest mouth in the NFL. Everyone hears him. If his Ipod wasn't working, trust me, he will be up in Japan's face. T.O. is known for feuding with coaches, quarterbacks, and anyone who doesn't agree with him. He is vicious. If I were on his team, I would be huddling under the bench sucking my thumb hoping he won't come after me. So, if you are in the mood for the Three Stooges, just watch football every Sunday and Monday, but be careful because these players will stomp, spit, and bark in your face.

photo editing by Jimmie Anderson



### Dates to Note:

**Wed., Jan. 3:** Classes resume

**Wed., Jan. 10:** ½ day schedule

**Jan. 11-19:** Exams

**Mon., Jan. 15:** MLK Holiday

**Mon., Jan. 22:** In-service, no classes

**Tues., Jan. 23:** Second semester begins

**PEACE  
ON  
EARTH  
IN  
2007**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Happy New  
Year**



# War Eagle!

## The Auburn Page

by Andrew Powell

### "War Eagle!"

This phrase can be heard nationwide as Auburn fans greet each other. It is completely unique to Auburn. A common misconception is that the "War Eagle" is a mascot. Auburn's ONLY mascot is the Tiger, and "War Eagle" is simply a battle cry. Many legends tell of the beginning of the "War Eagle" cry, but no one knows which legend is true. Here are two of my personal favorites:

A long time ago, at the time of the Civil War, an Auburn grad was fighting for the Confederate Army. The war was at an especially heated time. There was a great and bloody battle, with neither side having an advantage. After the smoke from the gunfire cleared, there was only a handful of live creatures on the field, among them the soldier and an eagle. The soldier decided to take the eagle with him, giving it the nickname "War Eagle,"

as he went back to his home right outside of Auburn. Many years later, he was attending an Auburn football game with "War Eagle," but the eagle got loose and began to circle the field. As the game continued, the eagle flew higher and higher. Finally, as the game ended (with an Auburn win I might add), the eagle fell dead. Ever since, people have said "War Eagle."

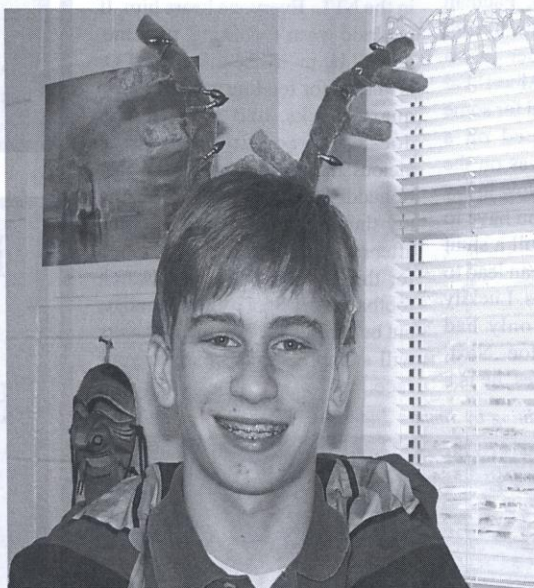
There was once an army battalion based out of Auburn whose symbol was an eagle. Before every

undoubtedly one of the coolest traditions in college football.

My trips to Auburn:

Many weekends in the fall, my family drives the five hours to Auburn to see the game. Whether Auburn is playing Washington State or Alabama, we will be there. This year was somewhat disappointing as far as the season goes, but as always, it was a blast just to be in Auburn. Days are spent wandering around the campus, saying "War Eagle"

hundreds of times, going to the "Tiger Walk" two hours before kickoff, and finally going into the stadium. Twenty minutes before kickoff, the eagle flies and a roar erupts in the stadium. The stadium is loud for the next three hours. On third down when the opponent is driving, the noise is deafening. Many times I have nearly passed out from yelling (oxygen deficiency to the head, seriously), but obviously, I keep on yelling. Anyway, the season was not up to expectations, even though it was pretty great, but at least we beat Alabama (. . . and LSU . . . and Florida).



Auburn Fanatic Andrew Powell

battle, the soldiers would cry "War Eagle," and soon the university adopted the saying.

Before each home game, the eagle circles the stadium before landing at midfield. This is

WAR EAGLE!!!

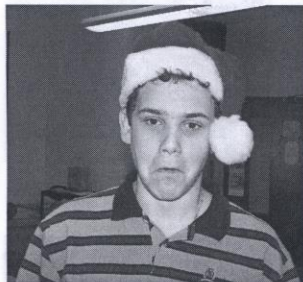


# Features

## Iran: One Opinion

by Will Norton

Iran will continue its nuclear program, despite warnings from the U.N., U.S., and most of



*Will's opinion of Iran!*

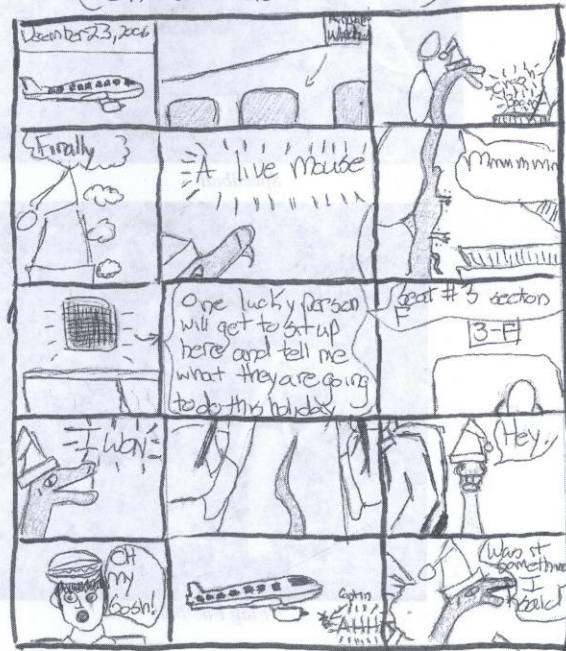
Asia. Some believe that the best way to resolve the conflict is to offer a series of "carrots and sticks," which refers to a reward for compliance, but punishment for insubordination. Iran is led by a religious kook, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who wants to have nuclear weapons with which to control the world. He also believes that the Holocaust never happened, supports Hezbollah, and wants Israel to cease in its existence. With a man such as this lunatic, logic and reason are laid to waste. He is bent on holding the world hostage, while the U.N. sits back and does nothing. The U.N. did not stop the genocide in Africa, so why should we entrust the fate of the whole world to them now? Besides, the oil-for-food

scandal revealed just how corrupt the U.N. is, so attempting to reign in Iran would expose and/or cause even more problems; however, I must say, Kofi Annan sure knows how to run—especially away from his involvement in the scandal. In fact, it is rumored that he was once a marathon runner. Good luck catching him. Iran will continue to be friends with regimes such as North Korea and Hezbollah; as a result, I once again expect to see no change in its actions. The aforementioned groups do not care about sanctions, or diplomatic channels, and have illegal or shady means of getting money.

## All I want for Christmas is...

**Joe Scherrer:** a unicycle  
**Walton Macey:** a pony  
**Jimmie Anderson:** a Samsung K5  
**Ben Crook:** a teddy bear  
**Will Granbery:** an iPod and a laptop  
**Harrison Mathews:** a hockey stick  
**Scott Gould:** two front teeth

## Snakes on a Plane (Christmas Edition)



artwork by Shelby DeWeese



# On the Hill

## Intramurals: Tomorrow's Champions

by Jack Keller

Intramurals don't get enough respect! Though the intramural squad meets for less than an hour, three days a week, these awesome athletes manage to compete in a series of *highly* competitive games, such as Flag Football, Speedball in the legendary Woolsey stadium, Bomb Softball, and Alaskan Beachball. Intramural athletes even work out in the weight room. Even though intramurals are for students not competing in team sports in a given quarter, the competitions can be quite exciting!



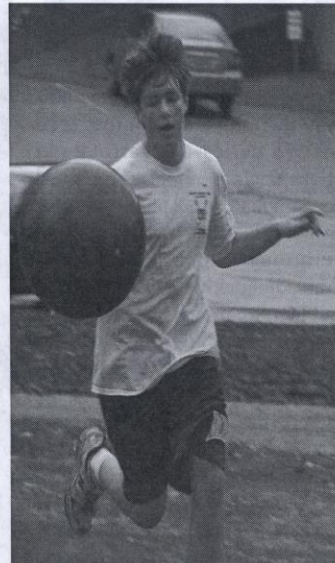
*Speedball*



*Flag Football*

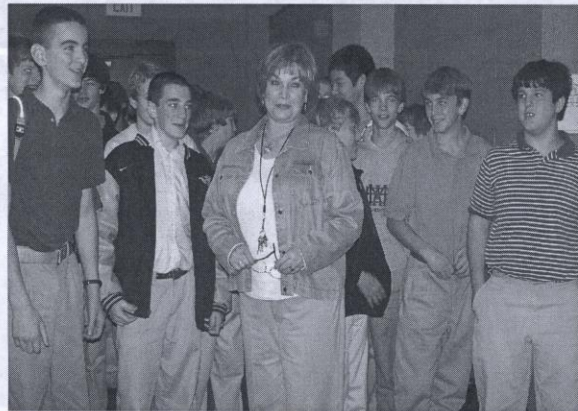


*Ultimate Frisbee*



*Alaskan Beachball*

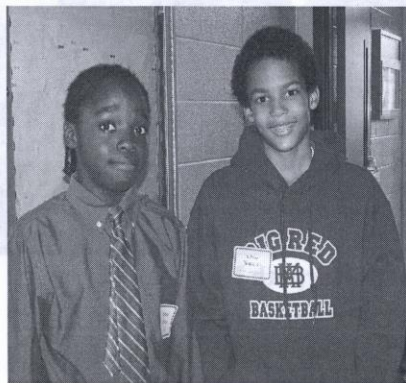
# On the Hill



*"Happy Birthday,  
Mrs. Snow!"*



*"I love PL!"*



*Christopher Norman hosts a potential MBA  
student.*



*Mr. Cooper's homeroom collected coats for Nashville  
Rescue Mission.*



*Devin knows he better  
laugh at Mr.  
Anderson's joke.*





# The Back Page



**Media Day: A Collaboration with Harpeth Hall**

## ***TOP OF THE HILL STAFF***

Editor in Chief.....Walton Macey  
Features Editor.....Gage Baxter  
Entertainment Editor.....Jimmy Thomas  
Sports Editor.....Jack Keller  
Copy Editor.....Lucas Rappuhn  
Photographer.....Andrew Wright  
Sponsors.....Mrs. Pettus, Mrs. Roberts